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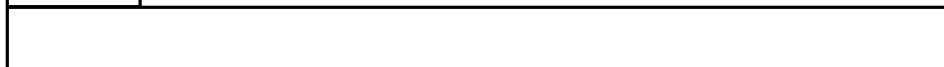
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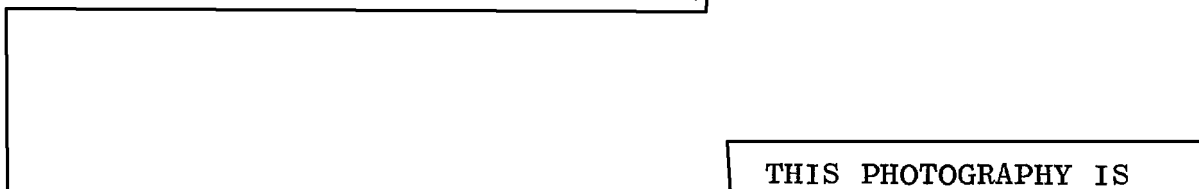


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(FOR MR. CROWLEY FROM DR. MCLUCAS)

I EXTEND MY SINCERE THANKS AND A WELL DONE TO YOU
AND YOUR STAFF FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING RESPONSE TO AN URGENT
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REQUIREMENT.

THE EXTENSION OF KH-4 MISSION 1111 TO 19 DAYS,
WITHOUT BENEFIT OF SOLAR PANELS,



25X1
NRO

THIS PHOTOGRAPHY IS
BEING USED AS A BASELINE FOR DETERMINING COMPLIANCE
WITH THE SUEZ CEASE-FIRE PROVISIONS.

BELATEDLY, I ALSO ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU
ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL AIR
RECOVERY OF A SATELLITE FILM CAPSULE FROM ORBIT.

BT

NRO review(s) completed.

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b. Collection by Photographic Satellites. The Agency has long been involved in the development and operation of national satellite reconnaissance programs.

CORONA The CORONA program, which became operational in 1960, has been the pathfinder in the detection and location of strategic weapons systems. It has undergone many improvements over the years and currently provides medium-resolution (seven to ten feet) coverage of broad areas. Its swath is about 140 nautical miles wide and a typical two-"bucket", 19-day mission covers about nine million square miles of area of which an average of 75-80 percent is cloud-free. While the CORONA is programmed primarily to cover broad areas repetitively to search out new activities, about 25-30 percent of its film is used regularly for directed coverage of high-priority areas such as known ICBM complexes, the Sino-Soviet border, or the Middle East.

The Agency's responsibility for the CORONA project encompasses the entire payload: (1) development, production, testing and integration of the sensor, the re-entry vehicles and the payload structure; (2) providing the principal assistant to the USAF System Program Director on payload aspects of pre-mission planning, on-orbit operations and post-mission analysis; and (3) providing targeting and software support to the Satellite Operations Center (SOC).

During FY 1970, five out of five CORONA missions were successfully launched and their film recovered, with a total of 89 days on orbit. Since inception, the CORONA program has provided hundreds of millions of square miles of cloud-free photography of the Communist bloc and has been the principal means of detecting new installations of intelligence significance. 25X1



25X1 The program plan is to continue CORONA [redacted] [redacted] The CORONA schedule, specified by NRO, calls for five launches in FY 1971 and two in FY 1972. During the last half of FY 1972 project CORONA will be closed out, and final disposition of residual material, and other assets will be made to on-going projects. 25X1

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